

What is claimed is:

1. An article for controlling odor, the article comprising at least one visual indicating agent that is color sensitive to the odor.
2. The article of claim 1, which further comprises an odor absorbing agent.
3. The article of claim 1, wherein the visual indicating agent is also an odor absorbing agent.
4. The article of claim 1, wherein the indicating agent indicates when the article has been exposed to sufficient odor to saturate the article.
5. The article of claim 1, wherein the indicating agent is located on an indicating device wherein said device is selected from the group consisting of discs, patches and strips, which is applied to or inserted into the article.
6. The article of claim 1, wherein the indicating agent is printed in solution onto the article and allowed to dry so that the dried residue of the solution remains on the article.
7. The article of claim 1, wherein the indicating agent is coated in solution onto the article and allowed to dry so that the dried residue of the solution remains on the article.
8. The article of claim 1, wherein the indicating agent is applied in differing concentrations in two or more zones to indicate how much of the odor absorbing capacity of the article has not been utilized.
9. The article of claim 1, wherein the indicating agent is applied in differing concentrations in two or more zones to indicate how much of the odor absorbing capacity of the article has been used.
10. The article of claim 1, wherein the odor is selected from the group consisting of body odor, foot odor, urinary odor, tobacco odor, meat odor, garbage odor, basement odor, mercaptans, sulfide, hydrogen sulfide, amines, ammonia, sulfur, sulfur degradation products, aliphatic acids, isovaleric acid, butyric acid and acetic acid.

11. The article of claim 1, wherein the visual indicating agent is selected from the group consisting of neutral red, 3-nitrophenol, Brilliant Yellow, chlorophenol red, Rose Bengal dye, D&C Red 28 dye, 4,4'-bis(dimethylamino)-benzhydrol (BDMD or Michler's hydrol), parosaniline base, alpha-naphtholbenzene, naphthochrome green, methyl red, methyl violet, methyl orange, bromocresol mauve, Acid Blue 80, blue dye Calcocid Blue 2G, ethyl red, bromophenol blue, bromocresol green, crystal violet, cresol red, thymol blue, erythrosine B, 2,4-dinitrophenol, alizarin, bromothymol blue, phenol red, m-nitrophenol, o-cresolphthalein, thymolphthalein, alizarin Yellow Reller, cobalt salts and complexes, copper salts and complexes, copper phenanthroline complexes and iron salts and complexes.
12. The article of claim 11, wherein the visual indicating agent is 4,4'-bis(dimethylamino)-benzhydrol.
13. The article of claim 3, wherein both the odor absorbing agent and visual indicating agent are 4,4'-bis(dimethylamino)-benzhydrol.
14. The article of claim 1, which is selected from a disposable odor absorbing sheet, diaper, undergarment pad, face mask, filtration device, sanitary napkin, tampon, panty shield and incontinence pad.
15. An article for controlling odor comprising a nanoparticle selected from the group consisting of silica, alumina, magnesium oxide, titanium dioxide, iron oxide, gold, zinc oxide, copper oxide, and combinations thereof, having thereon at least one metal ion selected from the group consisting of copper ion, silver ion, gold ion, permanganate ion, chlorite ion, persulfate ion, iron ion, and combinations thereof.
16. A visual indicating device for indicating the ability of an odor absorbing article to absorb odor, which includes at least one zone of a visual indicating agent that changes color when exposed to the odor, said zone having a concentration of the visual indicating agent that changes color to indicate that the article is saturated and should be replaced.
17. A method for visually indicating when an article for controlling odor is saturated comprising the steps of:
introducing into or onto the article a visual indicating agent that is color sensitive to the odor,
and

observing the change in color of the indicating agent when the article is saturated with the odor.

18. The use of a visual indicating agent on an article for controlling odor, which provides an indication of when the article is saturated with the odor.